

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Figure Descriptions as set forth below to be consistent with the changes to the drawings, beginning at page 6, line 15:

Figures 4A and 4B represents marker I (*purA*) sequences amplified from different Gram-positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 1-62), and from a Gram-negative bacterium (SEQ ID NO: 63).

Figures 5A-C represents marker II (*pstI*) sequences amplified from Gram-positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs: 64-107; SEQ ID NOs: 109-111 , SEQ ID NOs: 117-129, SEQ ID NO: 137, SEQ ID NOs 145-148), from some Gram-negative bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 108, 112-116, 130-136, 138-144) and from the fungi *Cryptococcus neoformans* (SEQ ID NO: 149).

Figure 6 represents marker III (*SpyM_0902* & *SpyM_0903*) sequences amplified from Gram- positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 150-180).

Figure 7 represents marker IV (putative GTP-binding factor plus 160 nt downstream this ORF) sequences amplified from Gram-positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 181-193).

Figure 8 represents the amplification of a molecular marker V (*Ecs0036* or *carB*) in Gram- negative bacteria.

Figures 9A and B represents sequences amplified with molecular marker V (*carB*) from various Gram- negative bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 194-232, 238-239, 242-254) and from various Gram-positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 233-237, 240-241, 255).

Figure 10 represents the amplification of a molecular marker VI (*HI 576* or *pgi*) in Gram-negative bacteria.

Figure 11 represents sequences amplified with molecular marker VI (*HI 1576* or *pgi*) from various Gram-negative bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 256-277).

Figure 12 represents sequences amplified with molecular marker VII (*EG10839* & *EG11396* or *sfrB* & *yigC*) in Gram-negative (SEQ ID NOs 278-303).

Figure 13 represents sequences amplified with molecular marker VIII (*HI0019* or hypothetical *yleA* protein) in Gram-negative bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 304-325).

Figure 14 represents marker I (*Spy0160* or *purA*) sequences amplified from different Gram- positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 326-359).

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Figures 15A and B represents marker II (Spy1372 or pstI) sequences amplified from Gram-positive bacteria (SEQ ID NOs: 360-395; SEQ ID NOs: 397-399), and some Gram-negative bacteria (SEQ ID NOs 396, 400-403).